

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 440

By Windle

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Opal Brooks on the celebration of her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Opal Brooks celebrated her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday on May 4, 2009, a milestone that will be commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, she is the third child of George M. York, a Morgan County school teacher and Justice of the Peace; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee became the thirty-sixth state to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment on August 18, 1920, thereby making equal voting rights for women the law of the land, and Opal Brooks has taken full advantage of her right to vote over the years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Brooks began voting at the age of twenty-one, and she has been a staunch advocate of exercising that right ever since; she still remembers when she was required to pay a poll tax just to step into a voting booth; and

WHEREAS, several years after retiring from Brooks' Cash Store, which she served for thirty-five years, Mrs. Brooks helped hold the election for the Crossroads Community; and

WHEREAS, as Opal Brooks enters her 102<sup>nd</sup> year, she not only casts her own vote at every opportunity but also actively encourages her fellow citizens to do the same; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion and thank her for her years of active citizenship; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Opal Brooks on the celebration of her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.